

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed July 30, 2002, claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. The Office Action states "Applicant fails to set forth the criteria that defines 'a symptom or condition results from the activity of aldose reductase.'"

The Examiner is thanked for a telephone interview on October 30, 2002 in which the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph rejection of claims 1-7 was discussed. In the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated a Markush group listing symptoms or conditions would overcome the rejection.

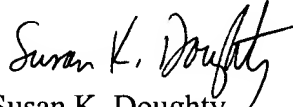
In response to the rejection, and to conform the claims to the Examiner's suggestion, new claim 24 has been added which lists specific symptoms or conditions. Support for these symptoms or conditions is found in the specification as filed, including page 1, line 33 (retinopathy), page 31, line 1 through page 32, line 24 (loss of PKC), page 30, lines 23-28 (polyol accumulation), page 27, line 5 through page 29, line 5 (galactitol formation), page 29, line 19 through page 30, line 4 (vascular leakage), and page 26, line 1 through page 27, line 4 (expression of aldose reductase). Claim 1 has also been amended to specify that diabetic complications are treated. This amendment is supported by the specification as filed, including page 3, line 25. No new matter is added by any amendment.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all rejections are overcome. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. If there are any issues remaining, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

This response is accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time (one month) and a check in the amount of \$55.00 for the extension fee. Also submitted is a check in the amount of \$42.00 for one independent claim. If the amount submitted is incorrect, however, please deduct the appropriate amount or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 07-1969.

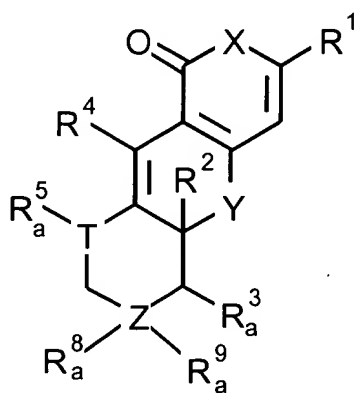
Respectfully submitted,


Susan K. Doughty
Reg. No. 43,595

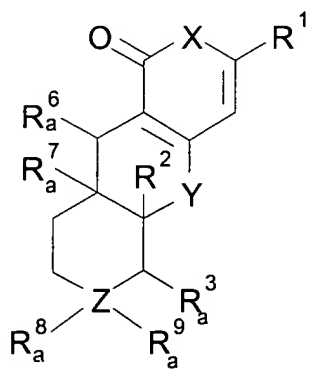
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Attorney docket No. 90-99
l1a: November 18, 2002

1. (Once amended) A method of treating a diabetic complication in the eye [symptom or condition that results from the activity of aldose reductase] comprising administering to a patient an effective amount of one or more compounds of the formula:



or



wherein:

T is independently CR, NR, N, S or O;

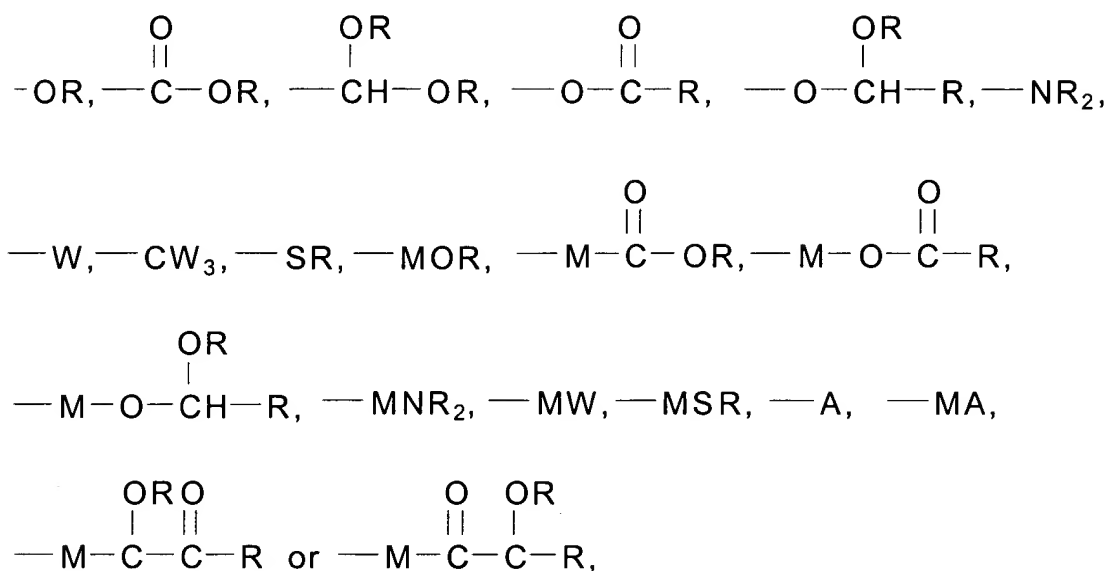
X is independently O, NR, N or S;

Y is independently O, NR, N or S;

Z is independently C, N, S or O;

a is 0 or 1;

R¹, R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are, independently, R,



wherein R is independently H, OH, alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl, an aromatic ring system, amino, sulfhydryl, or sulfonyl, M is a divalent alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl, aromatic ring system, or sulfonyl, W is Cl, F, Br or OCl, and A is an aromatic ring system;

R², R⁸ and R⁹ are independently R as defined above; and

R⁶ is independently R, NH₂, OH, or OCOR where R is as set forth above;

R⁷ is independently OH or H; or

R⁶ and R⁷ taken together are O;

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters of the foregoing, as well as optical isomers thereof.